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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

MEPHAM, S. et al.

Atty. Ref.: 978-57

Serial No. unknown

Group:

Filed: March 29, 2002

Examiner:

For: GEAR BOX MECHANISM

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March 29, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the following paragraphs in the specification for corresponding paragraphs previously presented. A copy of the amended specification paragraphs showing current revisions is attached.

Page 1, before the first line, insert as a separate paragraph:

a¹ This application is the US national phase of international application
PCT/GB00/03718 filed 28 September 2000, which designated the US.